

Minutes of the Meeting of Haswell Parish Council held on
Wednesday 30th March 2022 at 6.30pm held at the Lisa Dixon Centre, Haswell.

Present:-

CLLrs C R Hood (Chair), E Major, O Gray, A Wainwright, J Wainwright & W Ramsey

County CLLrs C R Hood, J Miller, & I Cochrane

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Parish Council.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr. S Hartley, County Cllr. C Varty and County Cllr. L Hovells.

2. Code of Conduct

Members were reminded prior to the start of the meeting of the need to disclose any interests, prejudicial or personal, in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

3. The Minutes of the Meeting Held Wednesday 26th January 2022.

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true and correct record by the Vice-Chair.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

5. Police Report/Update

Police Officers D Henderson and R Ramshaw attended the meeting and reported the following:

Total calls - 38

ASB – 2

Personal – 0

Nuisance – 2

- 24/02/22 – Hessewelle Crescent – Off road vehicles causing a nuisance in the area, no names known.

- 26/02/22 – Pesspool Lane – Quad bikes on main road, no names known.

Environmental – 0

Burglary – 1

- 23/02/22 – Alexandra Terrace – Shed and greenhouse burglary, tools taken – Open investigation.

Criminal Damage- 2

- 15/03/22 – Windsor Terrace – Damage to a garden wall by a vehicle – Open investigation.
- 22/03/22 – Local farm – Damage to fencing – Closed, full investigation complete with no suspect identified.

Theft and Handling- 0

Vehicle- 1

- 14/03/22 – Faraday Terrace – Theft of vehicle registration plate – Closed, full investigation complete with no suspect identified.

Other –

PACT Meeting details –

- 13th April – 6pm to 7pm – Online Pact meeting – Via the messenger service on the Seaham and Easington Police Facebook page.
- 23rd April – 3:30pm to 4:15pm – Mobile Pact meeting – Parked at the Hazelwell Centre car park.
- 28th April – 6pm to 7pm - Haswell Pact meeting (face to face) – Lisa Dixon Centre (Mencap).
- 2nd May – 10am to 11am – Mobile Pact meeting – Howarth Terrace Car park, opposite the village green.

Issues were also raised about a white van speeding through the village on the 29th March 2022.

Councillor Ramsey also raised issued about a vehicle which was badly damaged but sped away near to the farm.

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

6. Finance

Councillor Gray reported that all invoices received had been paid via visits to the bank as previously discussed.

Councillor Gray reported that there had been no bank statement received so a reconciliation could not be undertaken.

RESOLVED the actions being taken were noted.

7. Planning

There were no planning applications to consider.

8. Member's Reports

Cllr A Wainwright asked for an update on the following items:

- Speed indicator on Salters Lane. Cllr Hood stated that there had been a change in staff at Durham County Council so there had been no progress but that he would chase it up.
- Painting of the race course fencing. Cllr Hood reported that the probation service can no longer undertake this task as it is adjacent to a road. The Parish Council will now need to obtain costings for the painting and consider the funding options.
- Demolished property on Front Street. Cllr Hood reported that we are still awaiting an outcome from Durham County Council
- Grey Horse. Cllr Hood agreed to follow this up.

Cllr J Wainwright reported that the petition to ask Durham County Council to build a footpath between Haswell Plough and Shotton was still open and asked if Cllrs could encourage residents to sign up.

Cllr Ramsey stated that the tyre planters looked like they needed repainting and that there were more tyres available to be painted and planted around the village. Cllrs agreed that the existing tyres needed repainting and to obtain further tyres. Cllr Hood suggested that we could hold a community event. It was agreed to discuss that further at the next meeting.

Cllr Gray reported on the following issues:

- there has been a lot of flooding at Haswell Plough due to blocked gullies and sink holes and as a consequence residents were having to walk on the road. There was also flooding at Mazine Tce. County Cllr Miller stated that he would report this issue to Durham County Council.
- there were a number of pot holes around the village - one of which is the area from Richmond Tce into Pesspool Lane. Cllr Hood agreed to report this into Durham County Council.
- The road needs resurfacing between the Chapel and Church View. Cllr Hood agreed to report this into Durham County Council.

- that the football pitches on the Parish field need re-marking. Cllr Ramsey agreed to liaise with the groundstaff regarding this matter.
- that she would be having a meeting with the groundstaff in the near future the absence of a Parish Clerk.

Cllrs Gray and Ramsey raised the issue of the Queen's Jubilee. The Parish would like to organise an event but without a Parish Clerk this would not be possible. Cllr Gray reported that street parties were being organised by residents. It was discussed and agreed that the Parish Council would fund street party packs with flags and other items up to a maximum spend of £1000. Cllr Gray kindly agreed to organise the purchase of the packs.

Cllr Gray reported that the Oddfellows Arms football team now have to play at Peterlee as the Parish Fields have no changing rooms and this is a requirement of the football league. It has previously been agreed that the Parish Council would support the erection of changing facilities. Cllr Gray has previously investigated various options. Cllr Gray proposed a further option of purchasing a second hand 40ft, insulated portacabin which would cost £14,500. It would then need to be plumbed and fitted. Joiners and electricians had been approached who would be willing to undertake the work . Cllr Ramsey suggested that we could purchase a 32FT container, fully fitted for £22,000. After further discussion it was agreed in principle that the Parish Council would purchase a fully fitted container for £22,000. Cllr Ramsey agreed to investigate this further and report back to the next meeting.

Resolved:

- **That the contents of the reports be noted and actioned.**
- **That £1000 be delegated to fund street party packs for the Queens Jubilee celebrations.**
- **That an agreement had been made in principle that the Parish Council would purchase a fully fitted container for £22,000 for use as a changing facility for the Oddfellows Arms football team. Cllr Ramsey to investigate further and report back to the next meeting.**

9. County Councillor's Update Report

County Councillor Miller reported:

- the seat for Haswell Plough had been purchased but it couldn't be placed in the originally intended location as it wasn't County Council Land. It was agreed that a location neat the flats or the grit box would be the best location. County Councillor Miller will progress this issue.
- The fence had been agreed around the new seat at Haswell Plough
- New salt bin in Mazine Tce
- The gully/sink problem would be reported

County Councillor Cochrane reported:

- £300 is available for the villages for the Jubilee celebrations

- From 2nd May the waste bin collection times are changing. Bins must be out for collection before 7am.
- £400 had been raised at the joint fundraising event “Service of Peace for Ukraine” that took place on 17th March 2022. In addition, £600 had been raised by Ludworth. These funds will contribute to the fuel and medical supplies which is being taken over by coach to Ukraine in the near future. Councillor Cochrane thanked everyone who had helped with the event.

County Councillor Hood reported:

As always, I am privileged to be working in partnership with this parish council and the residents of Haswell. Since my last report, and on behalf of Haswell, I have:

- Launched an epetition to look into traffic calming measures around the Blue House junction.
- Reminded residents that we are entering lambing season and to please keep pets on a lead.
- Promoted the ‘Take Ten’ art installation that took place on 16th March 2022.
- Helped arrange the joint “Service of Peace for Ukraine” for Haswell and Shotton Colliery that took place on 17th March 2022.
- Reported the sprayed out giveaway message on both sets of signs at the chicane at Haswell which have now been cleaned.

I would also like to take this opportunity to inform both Haswell Parish Council and the residents of Haswell about the decision taken by the Joint Administration at Durham County Council to re-open the DLI Museum at Aykley Heads, of which I am part. The plans include:

- A complete transformation of the existing building, increasing the internal area by 96%
- A dedicated display space for the DLI Collection.
- An increase in the amount of flexible space for education and events.
- Development of a contemplative garden.
- Re-opening of a larger café and additional space for a new restaurant.
- Additional space included for an artist in residence, creative hub and bookable meeting rooms.

On behalf of all three villages, I have also:

- Met with Inspector Smith from Peterlee NPT.
- Been asked by the Joint Administration to be a substitute member of the North East Joint Transport Committee and the North East Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

- On Tuesday 8th March, attended the Area Planning Committee (Central & East) as a committee member. • On Wednesday 9th March, attended the March 2022 East Durham AAP meeting.
- On Thursday 10th March, chaired the Children & Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee where we discussed issues such as the Independent Enquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation and 'Looked After' Children.
- Attended the March 2022 Cabinet meeting at Durham County Council on Wednesday 16th March 2022.
- Helped arrange and attended the 'Service of Peace in Ukraine' service that took place at St. Saviour's Church, Shotton Colliery on behalf of Shotton and Haswell parishes.
- Attended a meeting with the Local Government Association on Monday 21st March 2022.
- Asked residents to give their thoughts on County Durham and Darlington Local Resilience Forum response to Storm Arwen, and kept them up to date with actions to support those effected by Storms Dudley and Eunice.
- Notified residents about the 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies
- Notified residents of Durham County Councils proposed review into the authority's community engagement services, including its 14 Area Action Partnerships.
- Reminded residents of Durham County Council's Household Support Fund.
- As we come into lambing season, reminded residents to keep dogs under control around farm animals.
- Helped announce to residents that County Durham has made it to the final 4 in our bid to become 2025 City of Culture.
- Attended the March 2022 DCC full County Council meeting on Wed 23 March 2022.
- Hosted a meeting of the Children & Young Peoples Overview and Scrutiny Committee to discuss SEND and EHCPs in County Durham.
- Attended the March 2022 meeting of DCCs Corporate Parenting panel as a committee member.

As always, the vast majority of my work has been on more personal issues that our residents have had in relation to residents' issues such as fly tipping, littering, dog fouling, car parking, noise pollution etc.

I continue to represent our residents and liaise with various officers, staff and departments, both at Durham County Council and external agencies. I am always available and if I can help you, your family or neighbours in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will take it forward.

County Councillor Hood also reported that the County Council had provided a price for Parish Council to purchase the triangle of land in the Gloucester Tce area in Haswell Plough. Cllr Hood will speak to the officers to see if there can be any negotiation on the price.

RESOLVED the contents of the reports be noted.

10. Public Participation

The Chair invited members of the public to address the Parish Council on items of concern or interest.

A member of the public present raised the issue of sewerage at the pond. Cllr Hood said he would look into it.

11. Date & Time of the Next Meeting

The next meeting shall be 27th April 2022 at 6.30pm at Lisa Dixon/Mencap Meeting Room, Haswell